GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2258
ANSWERED ON:29.11.2016
Distribution of Foodgrains in the Northeast
Ering Shri Ninong

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is providing adequate supply and necessary support to State/UTs for the distribution of foodgrains and other essential commodities including edible oils through Public Distribution System;
(b) if so, the details thereof and the quantum of the said commodities supplied to north-eastern region and particularly to Arunachal Pradesh during the last three years;
(c) whether allocation of the said commodities to some States has been reduced during the recent years and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
(d) whether requests have been received from some State for restoration of quota/increased/additional quota of PDS items and if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government thereon;
(e) whether the Government proposes to provide the said commodities to Below Poverty Line (BPL) families free of cost, if so, the details thereof; and
(f) whether the Government is aware about people dying due to inaccessibility of food in Vijaynagar area of Arunachal Pradesh which borders Myanmar, if so, the details thereof and the corrective action taken thereon?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY)
(a) & (b): Yes, Madam.
...2/-
...2...
Foodgrains: Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) is operated under the joint responsibility of the Central and the State/UT Governments. Central Government is responsible for procurement, allocation and transportation of foodgrains upto the designated depots of the Food Corporation of India (FCI). The operational responsibilities for allocation of foodgrains within the States/UTs, distribution of foodgrains to eligible beneficiaries under TPDS and supervision over and monitoring and functioning of fair price shops etc. rest with the State/UT Governments. In order to make foodgrains available to the people at subsidized rates, Government has enacted National Food Security Act (NFSA), 2013 under which foodgrains are to be provided to the States/UTs for distribution to the people @ 5kg per person per month under priority category and @ 35kg per family per month for AAY category at a highly subsidized prices of Re.1/-, Rs.2/- and Rs.3/- per kg for coarse grains, wheat and rice respectively. The Government provides subsidy and assistance to States for computerization of Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), construction of storage capacity, etc. for smooth functioning of Public Distribution System (PDS). The quantum of foodgrains supplied to Northeast States during the last three years is placed at Annexure-I.
Sugar: The Central Government does not maintain the stocks of sugar in central pool for distribution through Public Distribution System (PDS). The Central Government has decontrolled the sugar sector by removing the levy obligation on sugar mills from 2012-13 sugar seasons. Under the new dispensation of sugar distribution through PDS effective from June 2013, the State Governments/UTs are required to procure it from the open market through a transparent system and make it available at the retail issue price to the beneficiary. The Central Government is reimbursing fixed subsidy to the States/UTs @ Rs. 18.50 per Kg limited to the quantity based on their existing fixed quota based on the BPL families of the year 2001 Census and fixed from the year 2002. Two North East States viz. Assam and Arunachal Pradesh are not participating in the sugar subsidy scheme. The quantity of sugar distributed in the North East States during last three years is at Annexure-II.
Kerosene: Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas, Government of India makes Quarterly Allocation of PDS SKO to States/UTs under the Public Distribution System (PDS) for the purpose of cooking and illumination only as provided under the SKO Control Order, 1993. Further distribution of the PDS SKO within the State/UT through their PDS network to ration card holders is the responsibility of State/UT Government. The scale and criteria of PDS SKO distribution are also decided by the respective States/UTs. The allocation of PDS Kerosene during the last three years is placed at Annexure-III.
...3/-
....3...
(c) & (d): There has been no reduction in the normal TPDS foodgrain allocation to the States/UTs. Under NFSA, it is already provided in the Act that if annual allocation of foodgrains to any State is less than their average annual offtake under normal TPDS for three years preceding the Act coming into force, the same shall be protected. All the 36 States/UTs have implemented NFSA and accordingly, the State/UT Governments are being allocated foodgrains as per their demand and the entitlement under NFSA.
`The State Government of Gujarat, Kerala, Telangana, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh and Punjab had requested to increase the quota of sugar for distribution in PDS. The request of the State Governments/UTs for allocation of additional quota of sugar has not been acceded as any increase in monthly or festival quota will have financial implication on the sanctioned budget on account of increased subsidy.
(e): The coverage for receiving subsidies of foodgrains under National Food Security Act, 2013, has been delinked from poverty estimales and there is no proposal to provide foodgrains free of cost under the act.
(f): Government of India allocates foodgrains to all the States/UTs as per their entitlement under NFSA, 2013. The States/UTs are

responsible to ensure the distribution and monitoring of foodgrains within their respective State/UT. No such incident of death due to hunger has been received from the State of Arunachal Pradesh.

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ANNEXURE-I

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) & (b) OF THE UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2258 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 29.11.2016 IN THE LOK SABHA

Allocation of foodgrains to the Northeast States under TPDS/NFSA

(in tons)

S.No.	States	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
1	Arunachal Pradesh	101556	101556	88992
2	Assam	1890094	1811924	1686865
3	Manipur	171379	170952	141559
4	Meghalaya	188858	186484	176000
5	Mizoram	70140	69774	65758
6	Nagaland	126876	126876	126585
7	Sikkim	44283	44292	44326
8	Tripura	303249	284431	279009

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ANNEXURE-II

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) & (b) OF THE UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2258 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 29.11.2016 IN THE LOK SABHA

Statement showing State wise provisional quantity of sugar distributed in North East States from 1st June, 2013 .

North East States			
1	Nagaland	9560	14276	14276
2	Manipur	0	21364	21364
3	Tripura			

10000
13000
28772
4
Meghalaya
5112
15336
15336
5
Mizoram
2060
0
0
6
Arunachal Pradesh *
0
0
7
Assam *
0
0
TOTAL
26732
63976
79748
* - Assam & Arunachal Pradesh is not participating in the sugar subsidy scheme.
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ANNEXURE-III
ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) & (b) OF THE UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2258 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 29.11.2016 IN THE LOK SABHA
Allocation of kerosene to the Northeast States under TPDS/NFSA
(in KL)
S.No.
States
2014-15
2015-16
2016-17 (upto 3rd quarter)
1
Arunachal Pradesh
11460
10320
7032
2
Assam
327924
321372
219048
3
Manipur
24960
23388
15960
4
Meghalaya
25944
25428
17328
5
Mizoram
7416
6672
4548
6
Nagaland
17088
16752
11424
7
Sikkim
6348
5712

3468
8
Tripura
39180
38400
26172
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